ABSTRACT

A multi-tone image processing method and apparatus in which mutually dissimilar tone levels are realized by changing the additive condition of recording energy by means of different recording positions, even when the number of recording operations within a specific range is identical. For example, in an electrophotographic apparatus, when the number of irradiation by a light spot within a specific range remains constant as the irradiation position is changed in the specific range, there is a change in the additive condition of the optical energy within said specific range. Thus, the area rendered visible within the aforesaid specific range also changes, thereby changing the tone level.